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Reduction of rent in Koothali estate, Malabar.

* 300 *Q.*—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether the Government have got any representation from the tenants of Koothali estate, Kurumbranad taluk, North Malabar, seeking reduction of rent for this year due to the recent flood havoc; and if so, what action has been taken?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" The answer is in the negative."

Construction of a bridge at Perimba ferry, North Malabar.

* 301 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state at what stage the construction of the bridge at Perimba ferry, Payyanur, North Malabar, stands now?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" In respect of improvement works on the Bombay-Cape Comorin road the Government of India have agreed to meet 50 per cent of the expenditure. They have been requested to accord technical approval to the estimates and financial sanction for 50 per cent of the estimated expenditure. The work will be taken up as soon as the sanction has been received."

Purchase of new buses.

* 302 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many new buses were purchased during 1952–53 and their cost;

(*b*) how many half decker buses were constructed and the cost of each; and

(*c*) how many lorries are being used in the place of buses?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Eight new Guy buses were purchased during 1952–53. Seven of them are single-decker buses and one is a ' half-decker '. The overall cost of a single-decker bus is Rs. 70,410 per bus. The overall cost of the half-decker bus is Rs. 73,620.

" (*c*) Fourteen lorries are used in addition to buses."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" இவைகளில் டீஸல் வண்டிகள் எத்தனை? பெட்ரோல் வண்டிகள் எத்தனை? டிராம் வண்டிகள் நின்றபிறகு அதிகப்படியான பஸ்கள் தேவைப்படுகின்றன. எத்தனை பஸ்கள் வாங்க உத்தேசம்? அதற்கு எவ்வளவு செலவாகும்? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Yes, Sir, these are diesel buses and the hon. Member may be aware, from the answer I gave to another question on a previous occasion, that we have bought 40 buses and we are going to buy 40 heavy buses. We have also changed the petrol vehicles into diesel vehicles by installing Perkin's engines."

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SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :—" புதியதாக வாங்கியுள்ள பஸ்களுக்கு பெயரிட்டது சர்க்காரா அல்லது பஸ்களைச் செய்தவர்களா ? ' சிகப்பு பெண்ணினுடைய விலை எவ்வளவு ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" As I said just now, the cost of a single-decker bus is Rs. 70,410. I am not aware of the man who gave the name to the bus, but the public appreciated the name." (Laughter.)

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, were all the buses bought of the same dealer or were they purchased after calling for tenders and consulting other dealers? " 9-30 a.m.

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Yes, Sir, tenders were invited from different people and the lowest tender and the suitability of the machine were considered in making the final selection."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :—" அந்த பஸ்களுக்கு பெயர் வைத்தது யார் என்று கேட்டேன். அதற்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லவேண்டும்."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have no objection, Sir, if the hon. Member wants to take the credit." (Laughter.)

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Out of the newly purchased buses, may I know how many were purchased from Italy? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" None of the forty diesel buses are Italian; they are all Comer buses."

SRI A. RATNAM :— " புதிதாக வாங்கிய பஸ்களில் எவ்வளவு ஓடாமல் இருக்கின்றன. டீசல் பஸ்களை பெட்ரோல் பஸ்களாக மாற்றியதால் எவ்வளவு ரூபாய் செலவாகி இருக்கிறது. பெட்ரோல் பஸ்களை டீசல் பஸ்களாக மாற்றியதில் எவ்வளவு ரூபாய் செலவாகி இருக்கிறது என்பதை சொல்ல முடியுமா ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am glad the hon. Member has asked that question, for there is a doubt in the public mind and I have an opportunity of clearing it. None of these new buses are out of order; they are all in good working condition. No diesel bus has been converted into a petrol bus. Many petrol buses have been converted into diesel buses. The cost of one Perkin's engine is nearly six thousand rupees. The total cost involved is nearly Rs. 4 lakhs."

Adjudication under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

* 303 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many disputes were admitted and ordered for adjudication in the State under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, in the year 1953;

(*b*) how many Trade Unions and individuals applied for adjudication; and